IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"
Ψμ	"Express Mail"Mailing Label No.: EE462165059US
Pierre Girard, et al.	Date of Deposit: March9, 2000
International Patent Appln. No.: PCT/FR 98/01872	I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
Publication No.: WO 99/13156	Print Name: Jennifer Bruns Signature: Neurille Bruns
Publication Date: 18 March 1999	
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Box PCT Assistant Commissioner for Patents	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendments before taking action on the merits of this application, which is a national phase filing of International Application No. PCT/FR98/01872.

In the Claims:

Sir:

Washington, D.C. 20231

<u>Claim 1, line 19 (as per page 20 of the Amended Sheet)</u>, after "group" delete "comprising" and insert - - consisting essentially of - -.